

DRAFT

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC) MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: 14 April 2004

PLACE: 44 N. Christian St., Suite 300

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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| Charles Douts | Lancaster County Planning Commission |
| Nancy Halliwell | Lancaster County Planning Commission |
| Jeri Stelson (for Rep. Baldwin) | Lancaster County Delegation |
| Paula Jackson | City of Lancaster |
| Michael Ridgeway | Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Council |
| Terry Adams | Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 8-0 |
| Walt Panko | Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Central Office |
| Marci Mowery | Environmental Community |
| James Lutz | Red Rose Transit Authority |
| Greg Engroff | Lancaster Airport Authority |
| Richard Esposito | Amtrak |
| Kristine Newswanger | Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry |
| Ralph Hutchison | East Lampeter Township |
| John Ahlfeld | Transportation Authority |
| Jay Puschak | Business and Finance Community |
| Thomas Showers | Manheim Borough |
| Chris Snyder | Transportation Citizens Advisory Committee |
| William Ebel (Alternate) | Lancaster County Conservancy |
| Travis Martin (Alternate) | Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry |

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeffrey Weaver, Jack Howell, Janet Kempf, Arlene Schulman, Larry Budney, Barry Troup, Joseph Holzwarth, Spencer Stevens, Dan Walston, Charles Maneval, Rep. Roy Baldwin

GUESTS:

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| Bernie Harris | Lancaster New Era |
| Bruce Ryder | Mayor of Strasburg Borough |

STAFF:

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| Chris Neumann | Director of Transportation Planning |
| Carol K. Palmoski | Senior Transportation Planner |
| David Royer | Senior Transportation Planner |
| Lauri Alhskog | Transportation Planner |
| Christie L. Stephens | Administrative Secretary |
| Mark Stivers | Community Planner |

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairperson Charles Douts. Chairperson Douts took a moment to introduce two new members of the committee, Marci Mowery representing the Environmental Community and Kristine Newswanger representing the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
2. Approval of Minutes of 11 February 2004: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Greg Engroff. The motion was seconded by Nancy Halliwell. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Amendment to the Transit Portion of the FFY 2003-2006 TIP: James Lutz stated the RRTA board recently approved the Authority's FY 2004-2005 capital budget at its meeting in March. A transit TIP amendment is necessary to incorporate the changes into the TIP from the budget. The TIP amendment includes the following: security cameras for the buses, replacement of office equipment and furniture, Queen Street enhancements, bike lockers enhancements, farebox replacements, lease/purchase of bus tires, communication equipment upgrades, maintenance equipment upgrades, and bus information signs. Mr. Lutz added an item that was not provided in the table due to its recent approval. This item will set aside funds to study the transit options available in the Strasburg area and two other tourist locations. Mr. Lutz made a motion to recommend the amendment to the MPO for action. The motion was seconded by Ralph Hutchison. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Draft FFY 2005-2008 TIP-Balancing the Program and Priorities: Terry Adams thought it would be appropriate to discuss recent news articles before the committee began talking about the priorities of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). All planning departments in the state were invited to a meeting on March 23 in Harrisburg to review all the TIPs in Pennsylvania. Secretary of Transportation Allen Biehler hosted the meeting at which 26 projects statewide were placed in two general categories. The categories were Projects to be Stopped and Projects to be Reevaluated. These projects were mainly identified by their area's ability to see the project financially through to completion. Mr. Adams spoke of Route 72 specifically in saying that the state did not choose to stop this project but identified the area as not having the resources available to complete the project. The state's main concern is maintenance first. A list of projects, along with PennDOT's philosophy, was included in the meeting packet. Also, the Mount Joy railroad station project is not missing from the TIP. The project just started the Preliminary Engineering phase and has not advanced. The project is on the 2005 TIP for Final Design.

Chris Neumann touched on a few statements made by Mr. Adams. As the update of Lancaster County's Long Range Transportation Plan progresses, a gap has emerged in the amount of revenue levels currently available and the estimated costs of maintaining and improving the transportation program over the next 25 years. Action by Congress, action by state legislators, and possible changes in the allocation of funds within the state all could contribute in the effort to close that financial gap. Regardless of how badly we would like the Route 72 project to proceed, at this time, Lancaster County can not show the funds available to proceed with the project.

After a lengthy discussion on the possible outcomes of the new transportation bill and the politics involved, Walt Panko presented four options for moving funds for various project phases in order to keep funding for the City Amtrak Station in FFY 2005 and FFY 2006. Mr. Panko briefed TTAC on

these options and after careful consideration and lengthy discussion, TTAC chose a modified version of option #2. A motion to approve option #2 with modifications was made by Thomas Showers and was seconded by William Ebel. The motion passed unanimously. The effect of these changes under this option will allow the City's Lancaster Amtrak Station to receive CMAQ funds for construction amounting to \$2.373 million in FFY 2005, \$1.114 million in FFY 2006, and \$1.770 million in FFY 2007. CMAQ funding for Commuter Services, Ride Promo/Planning, and Chamber Rideshare Program previously slated for FFY 2006 will be delayed until FFY 2007. These three programs are scheduled to receive funding in FFY 2005. The lack of funds for these three programs in FFY 2006 could be addressed through a future amendment to the TIP after it goes into effect on 1 October 2004. Also, the four year total of CMAQ funding will decrease and will be closer to the four year CMAQ allocation for Lancaster County. This information will be presented to the MPO for their review.

5. Proposed Projects for the Draft FFY 2005-2030 TIP for Air Quality Conformity Analysis: A new list of projects was distributed prior to the meeting which consolidated both project listings for the TIP and LRTP. Thomas Showers introduced Carol Palmoski to speak on the Air Quality Conformity (AQC) analysis. Ms. Palmoski asked Chairperson Douts to combine agenda items 5 and 6 into one action item. Chairperson Douts agreed. Whether updating the TIP or LRTP, specific projects need to be modeled for Air Quality Conformity (AQC) at specific points in time which are called analysis years. AQC analysis years are determined by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. Ms. Palmoski asked TTAC to review the list of projects and for their recommendation. Terry Adams made a motion to recommend this item to the MPO for approval. The motion was seconded by Nancy Halliwell. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Neumann informed the committee of the upcoming public comment period for the AQC, TIP, and LRTP. TTAC will meet again on 12 May 2004, at which time they will be asked to take action on the proposed public comment period of 13 May through 14 June. Because of this proposed time period, Mr. Neumann asked the committee to delay the June TTAC meeting by one week to 16 June 2004 to allow for the completion of the public comment period. At the 16 June meeting, TTAC will be provided with a report on the public comments and the draft responses. Action will be taken at that time to move the documents forward to the MPO for adoption. Nancy Halliwell made a motion to approve the meeting delay. The motion was seconded by Thomas Showers. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Proposed Projects for the Draft 2005-2030 LRTP for Air Quality Conformity Analysis: This agenda item was combined with agenda item number 5. Please refer to the above paragraph.

7. Formation of Municipal Transportation Grant Applications Review Subcommittee: Chairperson Douts formally appointed Greg Engroff, Jay Puschak, and Kristine Newswanger to the Municipal Transportation Grant Application Review Subcommittee. A table showing the application projects was included in the mailing. Total cost of all submitted projects is \$5,859,400.54. Requested county funding is approximately \$2.5 million. Municipal cost is approximately \$2.2 million. Funding from other sources is approximately \$1.1 million. The Commissioners have not set a grant level for this year. However, the subcommittee will proceed with its normal application review. A list of recommendations will be provided to TTAC at the 16 June meeting.

8. Draft Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan Phase II: Lauri Ahlskog presented the final draft Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan Phase II for TTAC's recommendation for approval to the MPO. Ms. Ahlskog noted the following corrections: Tier III municipality listing is incorrect, and on page 50, under the third paragraph of Strategy 4-D, the beginning of the first sentence should read, "Commercial areas along arterial roadways ..." The corrections will be made before the final draft is presented to the MPO for adoption. All comments received were taken into account in the preparation of the final draft. Ralph Hutchison made a motion to recommend the draft to the MPO. The motion was seconded by Michael Ridgeway. The motion passed unanimously.

9. PA 896 Bypass Update: Bruce Ryder, Mayor of Strasburg Borough, at the request of TTAC at their 14 January meeting, returned to give an update on the PA 896 Bypass project. Since the last update, several milestones have been reached. The Traffic Impact Study has been submitted to PennDOT and Strasburg Borough by the developers along Historic Drive. The study has been reviewed by both PennDOT and Borough engineers. Recommendations for revisions have been submitted to the developers. The Developers Agreement among the developers has been signed by all the developers. With all signatures received, Strasburg Borough Council elected to take this project off "hold" status. Mr. Ryder provided a project schedule to the committee as requested. Mr. Ryder emphasized these dates are approximate and are not absolute. Mr. Ryder said the Lapp right-of-way subdivision and acquisition is anticipated to begin in May of this year and end by November of this year.

10. Results of Phone Ballot-Dillerville Road Bridge: An urgent request was received between TTAC meetings and MPO meetings to provide \$ 2 million for the Right-of-Way and Utility phases of the Dillerville Road Bridge replacement project. Due to the timing of the request, a phone ballot was conducted with the MPO for their approval of the TIP amendment. The official vote was 17 for approval with 0 votes against the amendment. The amendment provided \$2 million from the FFY 2004 State Bridge Line Item to the Dillerville Road Bridge project. This amendment will allow Armstrong World Industries to design and construct their utility relocation in advance of the bridge construction. This ballot will be confirmed with the MPO at their 26 April 2004 meeting.

Walt Panko presented a list of TIP modifications for information purposes. Funds in the amount of \$65,000 from the PA 283 Preventive Maintenance (PM) project were move to the Irishtown Road project to fund a cost increase to the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase. Funds were moved from the State Bridge Line Item to add the Final Design, Utility, and Right-of-Way phases to the Foreman Road Bridge project. The Manor Street and Front Street projects were added to provide Constant Warning Time Devices from the State Rail Crossing Line Item. Funds were also provided from the State Bridge Line Item for the Rettew Mill Road Bridge. State funds were provided to the Buck Intersection from the PA 896 Relocation project.

11. Transportation Action Plan: The transportation action plan was provided in the mailing for review. There were no questions or comments on the action plan as presented.

12. Other Business & Public Participation: Mr. Showers stated a letter is being sent to the MPO and TTAC by Manheim Borough indicating the Borough would like the MPO to reinstate the funding for the next phase of the PA 72 corridor study. If that is not possible, then the Borough would like serious consideration of funding for much needed infrastructure improvements within the existing roadway.

13. Next Meeting: **12 May 2004**
14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.